

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 13, 2015

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 6, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 956

Introduced by Assembly Member Mathis
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Travis Allen)

February 26, 2015

An act to add Section 21080.41 to the Public Resources Code, relating to environmental quality.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 956, as amended, Mathis. California Environmental Quality Act: exemption.

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires a lead agency, as defined, to prepare, or cause to be prepared, and certify the completion ~~of~~, *of* an environmental impact report on a project that it proposes to carry out or approve that may have a significant effect on the environment or to adopt a negative declaration if it finds that the project will not have that effect. The act also requires a lead agency to prepare a mitigated negative declaration for a project that may have a significant effect on the environment if revisions in the project would avoid or mitigate that effect and there is no substantial evidence that the project, as revised, would have a significant effect on the environment.

This bill would exempt from the requirements of CEQA activities undertaken by a local agency in response to a drought that are necessary ~~to acquire water supplies, extend service, or for water recycling projects~~

that provide water for drinking and sanitation to specific individuals and communities.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~ yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 21080.41 is added to the Public Resources
2 Code, to read:
3 21080.41. This division does not apply to any activities
4 undertaken by a local agency in response to a drought that are
5 ~~necessary to acquire water supplies, extend service, or for water~~
6 ~~recycling projects that~~ provide water for drinking and sanitation
7 to individuals and communities whose groundwater wells have
8 run dry or where the only available groundwater exceeds a primary
9 or secondary drinking water standards, as defined in Section
10 116275 of the Health and Safety Code.